

Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
February 18, 2003
Revised 3-9-2003

Members present: Roger Thompson Rodney Pingreee
 Alan Huizenga Spencer Harris
 Gerry Kittle Steve Revell
 Phil Dechert John Forcier
 Jeff Williams

Others attending: Marilyn Davis Frank O'Brien

Scheduled Meetings:

March 5, 2003 1-4 PM Mad Tom Room, Osgood Building

- Note this is a **Wednesday** meeting.

March 18, 2003 11 AM
Well Driller's Subcommittee

March 18, 2003 1-4 PM 100 Stanley Hall

April 1, 2003 1-4 PM 100 Stanley Hall

April 15, 2003 1-4 PM Skylight Conference Room

April 29, 2003 1-4 PM Secretary's Conf. Rm., Osgood Building

- Note we are trying to relocate to a better room for this date.

Review of Agenda –

The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

Review of Minutes –

The revised minutes of the January 21, 2003 meeting were reviewed and accepted. The minutes of the February 4, 2003 meeting were reviewed and accepted with Marilyn's revision that the UIC meetings referenced were informational meetings not hearings.

Proposed Designer Language –

Roger reviewed the changes that were made to the 2-18-2003 draft of the proposed changes. These changes were wordsmithing with little effect on substance. The committee made several additional suggestions, with Frank suggested changing the language relative to meeting the soil requirements by engineers. He suggested making it

clear that an engineer could complete the requirement anytime, including after July 1, 2003, as long as it was prior to submitting an application. Alan and Phil also suggested clarifying language.

The subcommittee had not met to discuss the issue of whether non-engineers would be able to design any form of connection to a municipal water or wastewater system. John said that he had been encouraging the subcommittee to work on this for the meeting but they had not had time to meet.

John asked about his recollection that there had been discussion that when designing systems for buildings other than single family dwellings, non-engineers would do the design only when the residential flow was at least 50% of the total flow. Alan and others reviewed the discussions and decisions made at earlier meetings where it was decided to not include this restriction. Roger noted that few non-residential uses would reach the 1350 GPD limit because the water system limitation of only non-public water systems would be the limiting factor. John asked whether the issue should be sent back to the subcommittee for review. Alan found and reviewed the decision in the previous minutes and the majority of the committee decided the issue did not need to be returned to the subcommittee.

Jeff asked about how much design was involved with siting wells for single family residences. Roger said that there were only two main issues, the siting of the well so that the isolation distances are met, and showing that the waterline between the well and the building maintained the required isolation distances. Things like pump sizing and materials are not reviewed.

Rodney asked if well drillers are considered designers. Roger said not yet, but that was part of what the subcommittee on this topic is supposed to work on. It was decided that the subcommittee would meet at 11 AM on March 18, 2003 prior to the TAC meeting on that date.

Plan Revisions vs Certification-

Roger started a discussion of how to deal with the inevitable changes that occur to many projects after the plans have been ~~improved~~ approved. Roger said that an engineer had raised the issue at one of the training sessions and was concerned that even minor changes would create a problem due to the exactness of the certification language. Roger noted that in some cases the designer could use less exact specifications that would still comply with the rules while allowing for some field variance. The language in §1-515 of the rules covers some of these issues and will be publicized for those who have not noticed it because it is located in subchapter 5 instead of in subchapter 3 where the installation certification language is noted. Steve asked what the amendment fee is for a project. Roger said it was based on amendments and so \$37 but Marilyn noted that it depended on whether there were municipal type water and wastewater connections. John said that it would be good to have separate methods for large and small amendments. Roger said he wanted to look into permit conditions that could allow for as-built

drawings to be accepted without doing an official amendment in some cases. Rodney noted that it is important to keep track of location of water and wastewater systems so the neighboring development can maintain isolation distances. The well driller's role was discussed and Roger noted that well drillers are considered installers and they can certify that the well was installed in the proper location.

Improved Lot Subdivisions

Roger said that he wanted to work on providing some guidance to staff and designers on what is required in determining that the replacement area requirement in §1-407 of the rules is met. Spencer asked about whether contours are required and whether the well locations needed to be GPS located. There will be further discussion when there is a draft document.

Innovative System Update-

Frank said that he had met with Carl Thompson from the Infiltrator company and heard Carl's presentation on research that supports an area reduction for leaching chambers in comparison to stone beds and trenches. Frank noted that he would be meeting with David Presby on the Enviroseptic System in a few days. Frank also noted that he had reviewed the information from PolyLoc on their new style of filter and that it conforms to the Vermont requirements and that the company would be notified that its use in Vermont was acceptable.

Feedback –

Spencer noted that the online application forms have been corrected so that the request for Jessanne's password no longer appeared.

Marilyn noted that there is still a mistake around line 16 that the Agency would be correcting soon.

Phil said that he had one comment from a person that any time a boundary line adjustment was made that a survey should be required. The committee discussed this issue relative to the concerns that licensed surveyors have. Some surveyors believe that any representation of a boundary line on a map or anything that could be filed in the records can only be prepared by a surveyor.

Phil said that a designer had also told him that preparing as-built plans requires a survey. Apparently that company sends a survey crew to document the final installation.

Spencer said that town clerks are not up to speed on what needs to be filed in the land records and by whom. Phil said that maybe the Secretary of State's Office should notify the towns. Roger said that VLCT newsletters often deal with this type of topic.

Jeff asked about licensed installer requirements. There is no requirement now as it was removed in the compromise at the end of the legislative session. Marilyn noted that Chris Recchia had suggested that the installers might want to develop a voluntary certification process and other committee members were interested in the concept.

Hydrogeology - Allison Lowry, Craig Heindel, Dave Cotton and Steve Revell.

Training subcommittee - John Forcier, Roger Thompson, Allison Lowry, Dave Cotton, Barbara Willis and Marilyn Davis.

Licensed designers - Spencer Harris, Gary Fern, Alan Huizenga for Lance Phelps, and Gerry Kittle.

Well driller's knowledge checklist-- Jeff Williams, Rodney Pingree, Roger Thompson, Bernie Chenette and Steve Revell.

Interested in the delegation rules-- Spencer Harris, Gerry Kittle, Kimberley Crosby, Phil Dechert, Gary Fern and Alan Huizenga